



News from

# Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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## Kind Statement on PATRIOT Act Amendments

*House Votes on Improvements to Strengthen Civil Liberty & Privacy Protections*

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI), who opposed the reauthorization of the U.S. PATRIOT Act that passed the House in December, 2005, voted last evening to support three amendments to strengthen civil liberty and personal privacy protections in the bill before it moves to the President's desk for signature. After passing the House late last year, the bill was held up in the Senate until last week, when the Senate adopted the amendments (95-4) and then passed the PATRIOT ACT (89-10). Having already passed the legislation, the House voted last night to approve the amendments adopted by the Senate only (280-138).

"I voted against the reauthorization of the PATRIOT Act last December because I felt it lacked adequate civil liberty and privacy protections, and it did not include important sunset provisions to allow Congress to conduct oversight and reexamine the legislation in the future," stated Rep. Ron Kind. "My position has not changed. I do, however, feel that these amendments offered an opportunity to improve civil liberty protections in the Act before the President signs it into law."

The three adopted amendments to the PATRIOT Act specifically will:

- Give recipients of court-approved subpoenas related to terrorist investigations the right to challenge a requirement that they refrain from telling anyone.
- Eliminate the requirement that recipients of national security letters who challenge these letters in court disclose to the FBI the names of their attorneys.
- Clarify that most libraries are not subject to demands in those letters for information about suspected terrorists.